

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

DEPARTMENT of TEXAS, HEADQUARTERS

<http://www.davmembersportal.org/tx/default.aspx>

BULLETIN

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COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Wow!!! Where has this past year gone? If you find out, please let me know. Have you ever just sat and tried to figure out the logic in some things, like, why did kamikaze pilots wear helmets???

I've had a very busy and enjoyable year attending various functions and ceremonies throughout the state. It has indeed been an honor to serve all veterans across Texas this past year as your State Commander. I thank all of you for this privilege and for all of your wonderful support.

Two very important items of business were attending the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations Meeting in Austin representing the Voice of Veterans in Texas, and the Mid-Winter Conference where our National Commander Raymond Dempsey testified before the Joint Hearing of Veterans' Affairs Committees on Capitol Hill.

On the subject of politics, Will Rogers once said, "The trouble with political jokes is that very often they get elected." So we, as a well recognized veteran's organization, must continually remind them of our issues and concerns.

"A politician will do almost anything to keep his job, even become a patriot."—Wm. Randolph Hearst
We must all take the responsibility of contacting our respective Congressional Representatives, both at the State and National levels, and make our voices heard. Let them know just what's on your mind for the good of all veterans alike.

It has been a real pleasure visiting and sharing ideas with many of you throughout this past year as we worked to "Build better lives for our nation's disabled veterans and their families."

"However beautiful the strategy, you should occasionally look at the results."—Winston Churchill.
Are you where you want to be in life?

While it is true that the DAV and DAVA are making great strides as we must continue to adapt to

change to keep up to speed with today's world, please remember that it is very essential that the Disabled American Veterans and the DAV Auxiliary work together in harmony and support each other as we grow in strength to better our mission.

Ya'll know that lifelong controversial question, "which came first, the chicken or the egg?" It's sort of the same thing in the DAV, "which came first, membership or service?" Definitely the two most important programs in the organization—you need membership to provide service, and you have to provide service to veterans to obtain membership. It's just that simple, or is it?

My plan is to continue to enjoy your comradeship as we strive to build a stronger organization so that we may continue our service of excellence for our veterans into future generations. I look forward to continuing my service in the DAV in whatever capacity I have your support.

Again, I thank each and every one of you in both organizations for all you have done and are continuing to do in service to those who served with honor. You as an individual can and do make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate, and you are most certainly appreciated for your service to our fellow comrades.

In whatever you do, always remember, "Always do right. This will gratify some people and astonish the rest."—Mark Twain

May God always bless each and everyone.

Yours in comradeship,

Ed Meiser

Department Commander